



HINTGEN ELEMENTARY

October 2026 Newsletter



DREAM
BELIEVE
ACHIEVE



EMPOWER
EVERY
CHILD,
EVERY DAY.

IMPORTANT DATES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

ALL SCHOOL FIELD TRIP TO NORSKADALEN
ALL DAY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

Family Night at Hintgen
Free Dinner + Screenagers viewing & raffles
SEE FLYER FOR MORE INFO

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

PICTURE RETAKE DAY
8:15 - 1:00 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

PTO FUNDRAISER ORDERS DUE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3:00 - 7:00 PM
By appointment in Family Access

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

NO SCHOOL
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

No School
Parent/Teacher Conferences, 12:00 - 7:50 PM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26TH

Opera for the Young event for Hintgen students
Morning event during the school day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH

GR 4 FIELD TRIP TO VITERBO
8:45 - 11:00 AM

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Greetings Hintgen Families,

Welcome back to school! It is hard to believe that the school year is already underway and Fall is upon us, and the first 6 weeks of school already complete! I hope that as you have made your way back into our building you have had a chance to reconnect with teachers, families and our Hintgen community.

As I started to embark on my 12th year here at Hintgen I found myself excited to see the smiling faces of the students as the year got underway and I was excited to see our returning families and welcome our new families back to school. With the second year now of our early start, our families were eager to begin and get back to school! I am excited as we have continued to grow our relationships with our community and community partners over the summer so that we can continue to better support our students and families this year. I am eager to strengthen these partnerships as we embark on the year and am looking forward to your continued feedback and partnership as families.

Please be sure to take the time to stop and introduce yourself if you are new. In the month ahead there are many opportunities to connect with your child's teacher through parent teacher conferences, through family engagement events and staying connected on our Hintgen webpage and facebook. Each month you can rest assured that I will communicate with you the upcoming events in our monthly newsletter both electronically via Parent Square and then also you can access it in our virtual backpack on the Hintgen homepage so that you can stay informed and prepared for things coming up. Check out our Hintgen Elementary Facebook page as well! I also encourage you to be sure to have open communication with your son/daughter's teacher so that you can develop the partnership that is necessary for your child's success. Only when we work together can we ensure your child's success, and the optimal learning environment at school.

I always welcome your feedback, ideas, concerns and questions so please feel free to contact me at your convenience either via email at aoliver@lacrossesd.org or via phone at 608-789-7767. I also welcome you to stop in and visit with me at our school. Hintgen is a great place to be!

Your partner in education,
Amy Oliver, Principal



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Parents, please remember if your child is going to be absent due to sickness, appointments or if you are out of town, please call the Hintgen Office at 608-789-6801 by 8:30 a.m. the day of the absence. If there is no call, the absence will be recorded as unexcused. Please remember that attendance at school is vital for your son/daughter's success. Coming in late not only is considered tardy but it also impacts your child's ability to start their day participating in their class morning meeting and to be a part of their classroom community. In addition they are unable to know the routines and schedule for the day and miss out on these crucial times with their school community. Please make it a priority to ensure that your child is at school on time and ready to learn! If your child is going to be absent due to a doctor or dentist appointment, it is always helpful to bring in a doctor's note so it can be noted in their attendance record.



This year the School District of La Crosse continues to partner with La Crosse County and one way that we will stay current and inform you of your child's attendance is to send home attendance notification letters. These will occur at 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 day intervals for all absences. Once your student has 10 excused absences, per state law and district policy, you can expect communication from school. This is to inform you as a parent of the total # of missed days. Missing school days means missing classroom instruction, routines and procedures and connections with kids and adults who care. Missing school matters. We recognize that multiple days can occur quickly, so we will continue to keep you informed of those missed days with letters that come via parent square and in your child's backpack. As always our goal is to partner with you to reduce the number of absences from school.

Check out the great visual that is attached and reference it as a family for each day you miss school so that you can stay attuned to how many days your child has missed!



PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

The PTO meets monthly on the **2nd Tuesday of the month.**

All meetings are virtual, and you can click the button to Join the Meet or also scan the QR code to the right to get the Hintgen Elementary website. All PTO meetings **begin at 5:30pm.**

Please consider joining us at a meeting, or helping out in any capacity as we are always looking for additional family supports. There are many ways you can be a PTO member. Please contact our **PTO rep, Dawn Ortiz (608) 792-8713** or email the PTO at **ptohintgen@gmail.com**. They can help you if you have any questions or want to know ways to become involved. Check out the PTO Facebook group by clicking on the orange button to the right!

Our October meeting is on October 13th.
The meeting in November is on November 10th.



[Join the Meet](#)

[Hintgen PTO Facebook Group](#)



PTO UPCOMING EVENTS

HINTGEN PTO FUNDRAISER HAS STARTED

The **Cherrydale Fundraising** Packet was sent home with students on September 24th. Check Parent Square post for more details. This is the **BIGGEST** fundraiser of the year for our school and all of the proceeds go to directly supporting school based things for students and teachers, such as supplies, field trips, busing costs and more!

Please refer to the communication that has also come home with extra incentives the PTO is offering in effort to get all students involved. If your child is motivated to “tape” a teacher to the wall, they still have this week to participate in the fundraiser!

Reminder to all parents: Cherrydale Fundraiser is due on October 8th!



DISTRICT ILLNESS GUIDANCE

Occasionally we will have students who come to school not feeling their best. We encourage students who aren't feeling well to stay home until they are feeling well enough to learn. The district illness recommendations for students can be found in the [Parent's Health Guide](#) on the district webpage:

FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS

Just a reminder to **fill out a Free & Reduced Meal Application** if you feel your family may qualify, or if you received free meals last year. We have applications available in the school office or you can find it on Skyward Family Access by clicking "View Student Info Update" and then "Add a Food Service Application".

At Hintgen, as a certified free school, all meals are free for all students for breakfast and lunch. Filling out this application is necessary annually so that our building is able to receive additional state funds. These funds ensure that we have additional teaching staff identified as Title 1 teachers in order to help support all students to engage in reading and math and provide interventions as needed. Every application matters and supports our school, please fill one out today!

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

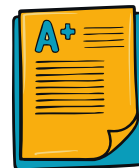
The School District of La Crosse takes pride in hiring only highly qualified teachers. This means they all are fully trained, certified, and often experienced in the position they teach. Our faculty consistently has a high percentage of advanced degrees, and we do a good job of retaining some of the top staff in the state and the nation. Life events, such as retirement, childbirth, or illness, sometimes cause a need for a long-term substitute teacher. When this happens we always make every effort to hire a highly qualified substitute. All are certified teachers and most are licensed in the area in which they are substituting. In rare cases it may be impossible to find a teacher with a particular certification, such as special education. This may result in the district asking the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for an emergency license for such a teacher. If you ever have any questions about the certification of any of our staff, please call Amy Oliver, Principal of Hintgen Elementary.

VIRTUAL BACKPACKS

Check out the link below for more information on events, programs, and opportunity for your child(ren) in the community. [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE VIRTUAL BACKPACK.](#)

PROGRESS REPORTS AT CONFERENCE & PRP'S

This year we will continue once again with a progress report to share at Parent Teacher Conferences and a formal report card at the end of semesters 1 and 2. When you meet with your child's teacher at conferences, they will share with you how your child is progressing related to the standards and the district benchmarks for fall.



PRPs are Personalized Reading Plans and are new in the last few years in accordance with state legislature ACT 20. As part of ACT 20, the School District of La Crosse was required to administer the AIMS screener to all students and those who are under the 25% as identified by the screener will have what is called a Personalized Reading Plan. These PRPs are detailed plans that identify what a child is working on, what interventions to support their continued growth will need to be administered, and how we will monitor their progress. You can expect that at Parent Teacher Conferences if your child has been identified as needing a PRP that you will learn about this, and get a copy of it while at conferences. There will be additional handouts provided at conferences for more detailed information about PRPs.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULING IN PARENT SQUARE

Conference scheduling will be utilized in Parent Square again this year. A notice is being sent out on Saturday, October 3rd to mark the beginning of Conference scheduling. The DEADLINE for selecting your child(ren)'s conference times is Sunday, October 11th.

No need to remember passwords to do your scheduling. Simply pick the time that works for your child.

Please note: students requiring more than one teacher to be at the conference have been prescheduled. You will receive a notice on October 3rd. If that time does not work for you, contact Mary at the school office, 608-789-6801 or through Parent Square. She will contact the staff involved.



SAFETY & SECURITY AT HINTGEN

At Hintgen we continue to have a focus on a safe and secure pick up and drop off at Hintgen to ensure safety for all our students and families. We ask families to slow down, and follow our expectations.



As a reminder, supervision DOES NOT start until 7:20 at school. As a result, kids should not be dropped off and left on school grounds unsupervised prior to this time. We need your help in ensuring we all follow our identified procedures.

Additionally, you will notice increased signage for safety and adults helping with flow of traffic at the end of the day. This is to ensure safety for all of our students, families and staff. **We ask that you please follow the identified procedures during this time for a smooth process for all and are respectful to any and all school staff who are ensuring safety procedures.**

Please see our pick up and drop off information, maps and next steps for Hintgen for the 2026-27 school year. See attached flyer!

WHAT I NEED (WIN)

Starting from September 28, you heard from your child and your child's teacher about starting WIN. WIN is the time in our day dedicated to meeting students where they are at, both academically and behaviorally. Again this year at Hintgen we have a consistent time schoolwide that is devoted to 30 minutes a day to support students with either interventions, enrichments or ongoing practice to meet their needs. Across the building, this time is called WIN or "What I Need", where students can focus on what they need to continue to grow and learn.

Throughout the year teachers will be looking at both their formal and informal data to know how students are progressing and will identify areas of need for further support for each student. By looking at each student, we can then identify patterns or trends where groups of students may be able to work together with adults at that grade level. Students may have an opportunity to work on interventions/enrichments in both reading and math, whatever their needs are. At the end of our assessment windows in the Fall, Winter and Spring, teachers will analyze their student data and then make instructional groupings based on the needs. As your child's needs are identified, we will be communicating with you about their focused work.

As we implement this systematically across our building, we will be ensuring a way to meet student needs to go above and beyond the core classroom instruction provided by the district. At Hintgen we are committed to ensuring all of our students needs are met and WIN time is a time that allows tailored instruction and student success. As always, if you have any questions about this, or ways to support your child, encourage you to reach out to the classroom teacher for more detailed information or ways to partner with them for your child's ongoing success.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS

As a school we have kicked off the year with the teaching of our PBIS Schoolwide Expectations of Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe!



What we know about behavior is if we can explicitly teach and model it, then we can ensure that kids have been taught the same expectations and then we can hold them accountable to those throughout the year. I encourage you to ask your child to tell you what it should look like, sound like and feel like in all areas of our school. They can teach and model that for you as you come into our building.

This year we also taught outside recess expectations and games we can play while out at recess so that kids can be safe, respectful and responsible. Mr. Geier taught these in the context of the gym during PE, and then kids could transfer and apply those skills outside. We also had a recess rodeo kickoff, where we spent time learning and practicing our Hintgen recess games. Ask your child to teach you how to play these games next time you are at Hintgen! Again, this year we will have daily recess and then lunch with your child's class and we will again offer an additional recess for students throughout the day so practicing appropriate play will be important at all times while at school.

As a school we will continue to focus on Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe this year and work on earning Tiger Prides both individually, collectively as a class and then celebrate that monthly during our all-school Morning Meetings. Also this year again we will be sending home PAWS-itive post cards to kids to extend our acknowledgments outside of school. This year we will also continue to celebrate our PBIS days across the year with an all-school Morning Meetings monthly and then we will engage in an all school PBIS experience field trips focused on our community four times this year, once each quarter. You can always check out our PBIS celebrations in our all school PBIS celebrations display case in the front of the building by our Kindergarten rooms.

We will continue to have a focus on strengthening both our individual relationships with kids but also our classroom and schoolwide community. We have a schoolwide focus again this year on "Empowering Every Child, Every Day" and will focus on this in all that we do! Along with that, we will be focusing each month on the Districts Core Values. These will be a part of our Social Emotional Teaching that will occur monthly across the building for consistency. You will notice posters with the value of each month in your child's classroom and in our hallways. You will also see not only our staff's Hopes and Dreams for the year but your family's Hopes and Dreams for your child posted in our hallways. These are important reminders for us to hold high expectations for all and ensure a community of support and learning!

Our theme this is year is "Adventure Awaits" and that is just what we will be embracing as we move through this year!

SCHOOL WIDE TITLE 1

Title I is a federally funded education program in the United States. It provides children with additional help in the areas of reading and math. The federal government, through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, provides funds to local school districts for the operation of Title I programs. Title I services at Hintgen Elementary School are school-wide, which means they are available to all students. Children are identified to participate in the Title I supports through assessments, classroom performance, and teacher recommendations. These groups may happen during WIN, or at other times during the school day where a child does not miss core instruction in the classroom. In addition this may be ongoing practice to support universal instruction, or may be identified as an intervention. The Title I teacher coordinates with the classroom teacher. Typically Title I supports are either in a small group or 1:1 supports as needed. If you have any questions or concerns please contact: Brenda Ahern or Jenny Ruetten, our Title I Reading Teachers or Krista Kaminski, our Title I Behavior Support Teacher.

We are able to receive statewide Title I funding as a result of our Free and Reduced Meal Applications. If you haven't filled out one of these applications, please do so. They can be found on Skyward Family Access by clicking "View Student Info Update" and then "Add a Food Service Application". Regardless if your family qualifies, it can help our school with statewide funding and also allow us to apply for additional grants to directly fund and support student activities and ongoing learning in the building. All applications, whether a family qualifies or not, are confidential. This year, in alignments with the District Continuous Improvement plans we have updated our goals and timelines for our collective focus for the next year. and last year in our three years School Improvement Plan. Additionally this year we will be utilizing our Hintgen Needs Assessment data that we collected from our families to identify our continued action plans and next steps on what YOU, our Hintgen families want and need at our school and in our home/school partnership. More information will be coming in the upcoming months.

READING CORNER

Reading Kick off will be presented at conferences. In the meantime, below is a link to promote family reading engagement.

[Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do](#) by NEA (National Education Association)



SAVE THE DATE – 10/29

The School District of La Crosse will be sending out information to the entire community in the coming week. This will be an Open House for Hintgen where community developers will be coming to illicit feedback from residents on the future of the building site. The event will be from 4-6:30 in our LMC. More details to be coming, and flyers as reminders but for now please SAVE THE DATE of Oct. 29.

HINTGEN ELEMENTARY

October 2026 Newsletter



608-789-7767, ext. 0

Hintgen@LaCrosseSD.org

3505 S. 28TH St., La Crosse, WI 54601

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE.



**EMPOWER EVERY CHILD,
EVERY DAY.**

PBIS

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

October's Core Value...

RESPECT

Every month Hintgen will highlight one of our 8 Core Values. Our first Core Value that we will be starting with is Respect. This is core value is a foundation for the other core values. Respect helps build trust, promotes positive relationships, helps encourage self worth, supports diversity and helps model positive behavior.

Ways to help...

- Modeling respect towards yourself and others
- Showing empathy
- Treating others kindly
- Using polite language
- Listening Actively



Family Night

The PBIS team will be hosting a Family Night on Tuesday, October 6. Invitations will be coming home soon. We will have dinner for families and activities. Our theme this year is the less screen time. We will provide information about screen time use and ways to help you at home.

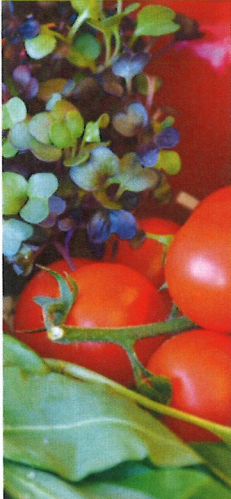
Upcoming Events

- All School Field Trip to Norskedalen- October 2
- Family Night-Oct.6
- P/T Conferences-Oct.15
- No School-Oct.16
- No School: P/T Conferences-Oct 19

Hintgen's Core Values

Respect, Friendship, Giving, Responsibility, Compassion, Honesty, Self-Discipline and Perseverance

Rainbow Lettuce Wrap with Golden Honey Dressing



Golden Honey Lemon Dressing Recipe Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 tablespoons lemon juice, from 1/2 of a medium-sized lemon
- 1 small clove garlic, minced
- 1/8 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Directions: Combine lemon juice, garlic and salt in a small bowl. Let sit for a few minutes to let the garlic mellow a little. Add the honey and stir well. Add the olive oil slowly as you mix with a small fork or whisk. Take a small taste. Add more honey or olive oil if it is too tart or more lemon juice if too bland. Add freshly ground pepper to taste. Drizzle a small amount on your salad.

Rainbow Lettuce Wrap Recipe: Wash and cut up a variety of fresh vegetables representing all of the colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Examples include: lettuce, tomatoes, microgreens, shredded carrots, herbs, cucumbers, radishes, peppers, etc. Use a large leaf of lettuce to fill with your colorful veggies. Drizzle with dressing or leave plain. Wrap and enjoy.

Encourage your family to use many colors to make a rainbow in their wrap.

GROWLaCrosse.org

Greenhouse Field Trip Taste Test Recipe

Greenhouse Field Trip Reflections

Reflection Questions:

Field trips have a greater impact on students when there is time to reflect on what they learned during the experience. Here are a few questions you can ask your student to gain a better understanding of what they took away from their time in the GROW greenhouse and to help them process information.

How is a plant's life different in a greenhouse than in a garden?

On this field trip the plants have been our teachers. What did a plant teach you today?

Why do humans need to eat a rainbow of natural foods?

If you were a plant would you like to grow in a garden or a greenhouse, why?

Printable Resources:

Go to GROWLaCrosse.org for free printable activities and resources connected to the greenhouse field trip experience and learning.

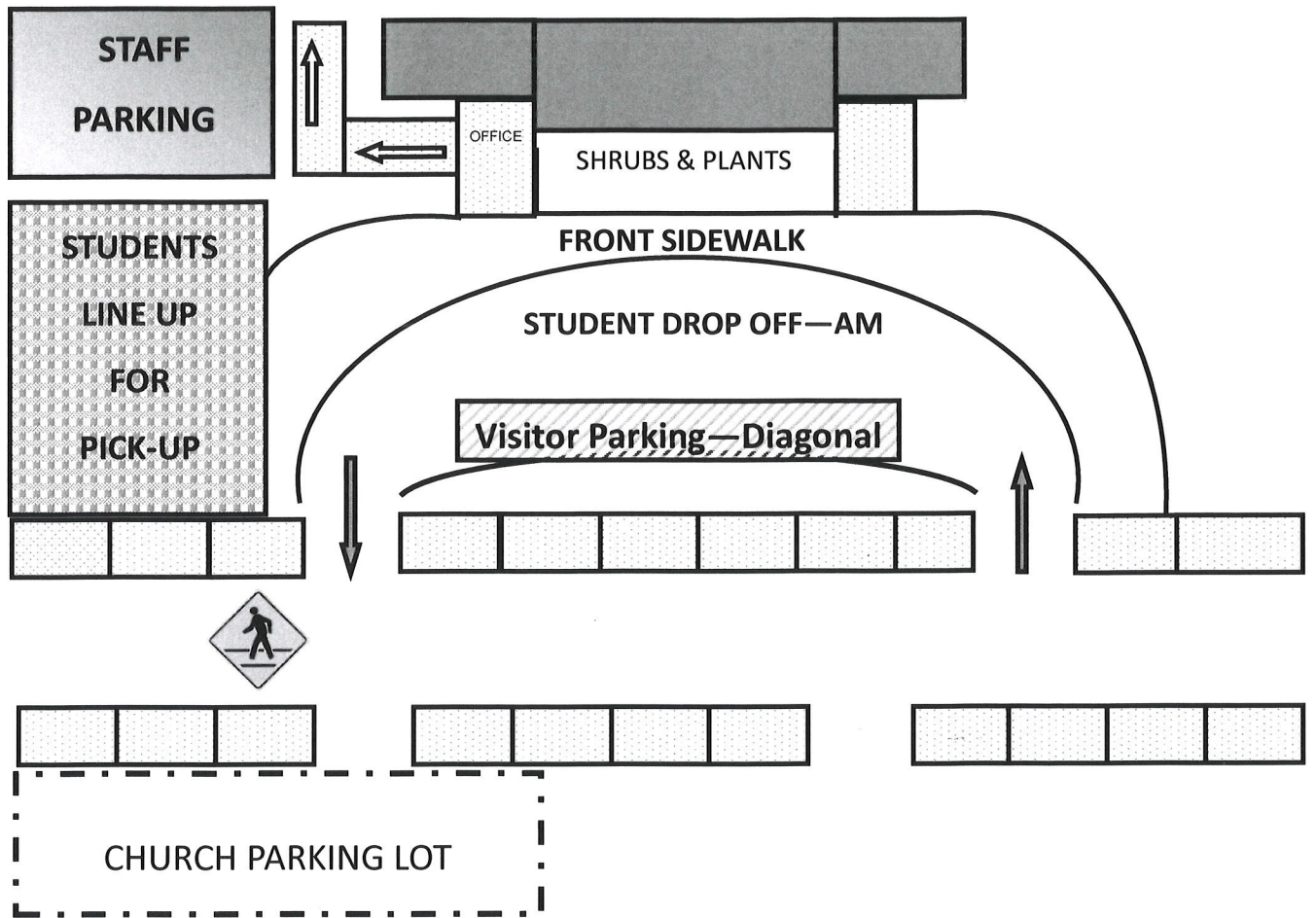
Follow GROW on social media and subscribe to our e-newsletter to stay current on all of the GROW happenings and for regular ideas to help engage your family in healthy eating and time in nature.



Connecting youth to healthy food and nature to nourish growing minds and bodies since 2012.

GROWLaCrosse.org





2026-27 Drop Off/Pick Up Map

- ⇒ AM Student Drop Off for Parents and Buses is in front of school only.
- ⇒ PM Student Pick Up for Parents is in front of school only. Stay in the circle drive line and meet up with your child in the Student Pick Up area. Your child will be waiting there. Buses load in the back of school.
- ⇒ You should ALWAYS YIELD to the Buses.
- ⇒ New parking spaces have been installed in front of school, including handicapped spaces!
- ⇒ DO NOT PASS A BUS WHEN IT IS PARKED IN THE DROP OFF AREA IN FRONT OF SCHOOL!
- ⇒ DO NOT BACK OUT OF A PARKING SPACE WHEN A BUS IS IN FRONT OF SCHOOL. BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN BACKING OUT OF THE NEW SPACES IN FRONT OF SCHOOL.
- ⇒ Parking is still available in the church lot across 28th St.
- ⇒ **PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF/PICK UP STUDENTS AT THE CUL-DE-SAC ON 29TH ST.** THIS IS A SAFETY HAZARD AS STAFF MEMBERS ARE DRIVING IN TO THE STAFF PARKING LOT IN THE MORNING AND BUSES ARE USING THAT ROAD IN THE AFTERNOON. STAFF PARKING AREA IS FOR STAFF ONLY—DO NOT ENTER!
- ⇒ **Safety is our #1 concern!! Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe!!**

Dear Hintgen Parents,

As we start the year, I am hoping for your help to ensure a safe drop-off and pick-up here at Hintgen Elementary.

AM - As a reminder, in the morning the front circle is for drop-off only.

- Parents must remain in their cars, drop-off their children, and then proceed forward.
- Please DO NOT attempt to pass one another. Wait until the car in front of you pulls forward.
- If you would like to come in with your child, please park on the road or in the church parking lot across the street from our school.
- You are welcome to come into the building at any time.
- Please be aware that our buses come in through the circle drop-off in the morning and will need to have vehicles cleared to drop. DO NOT attempt to pass the bus while in the drive. The bus stop sign arm will be out to remind you and the buses will take up the drive intentionally as to stop traffic.
- Please also be aware of children walking as they pass the crosswalk or are getting off the bus.
- Once children are dropped off they can utilize the sidewalk to walk to the back entrance of the building. (Your child might want you to walk along the first few days if you are new to our school.)
- Once there, they choose to either play outside for recess or come in the back doors for breakfast. If your child is eating breakfast, the breakfast must be eaten before going to the playground.
- Breakfast begins at 7:45 am. Supervision on the playground begins at 7:45 am. There is no supervision before that time. For your children's safety, we ask that you not drop them off before that time.
- If you utilize the YMCA Surround Care program at our building, please come in the back door with your child as our front doors will remain locked until 7:45 am.
- I also encourage parents to refrain from pulling into the side lot and attempting to drive in the back to drop your children off. To ensure safety, you will notice cones in the back each morning indicating where your vehicle will have to stop and not go further.



PM – The end of the day bell rings at 2:45 pm.

- Doors will remain locked for safety until the bell rings. **STUDENTS WILL BE READY FOR PICK-UP IN THE SAFETY ZONE BY 2:55. ***CLASSES WILL NOT BE DISMISSED BEFORE THE 2:45 BELL.*****
- Once the bell rings we have teachers and students heading in many directions.
 - **Bus riders** will immediately head to the back playground and board the buses.
 - **Students who get picked up** will be escorted outside by their teachers and then will wait in our new designated pick-up zone. All students who are waiting to be picked up will wait in this zone to avoid students running through cars.
 - **Students who walk home** will be escorted out by their teacher as well and then will continue on using the crosswalks if needed.
- Please utilize the circle drive to meet your child at this zone and then continue pulling out for the next family.
- If you need to go into the building to talk to someone in the office, to meet with a teacher, or for another reason, please park your car in the church parking lot and come into the school. There should be no unattended cars in the circle drive.

***Please discuss this AM/PM safety plan with your child(ren). I appreciate your help in ensuring a safe pick-up and drop-off for all our Hintgen students.

Amy Oliver, Principal